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HEAD GIMBAL ASSEMBLY METHOD

The present application is a continuation of United States Provisional Patent Application Serial Number 60/102,860, for Method for Manufacturing a Head Gimbal Assembly, filed October 2, 1998, the specification of which is incorporated herein in its entirety. *now abandoned*

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates generally to assembly procedures used in the manufacture of hard disk drives and particularly to a method of assembling a head gimbal assembly and testing procedures used in evaluating the assembled component parts of the head gimbal assembly at various stages in the assembly process.

BACKGROUND OF THE PRESENT INVENTION

The hard disk drive is the principal device used for long term, bulk memory storage in today's computers. The hard disk drive includes a rotating disk and a head gimbal assembly that is attached to actuator arm in the disk drive and that is held thereby closely adjacent to the rotating disk. The head gimbal assembly consists of several distinct components including a suspension, a